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February 26, 2020

YEG Negev Gala Honourees are Dr. Jacob & Odette Masliyah

By Judy Goldsand

“A wonderful choice!” “Well deserved!” are comments heard after learning of Edmonton JNF’s 2020 Negev Gala honourees, Dr. Jacob and Odette Masliyah. The Gala will be held on June 16, 2020.

An internationally recognized researcher, Dr. Jacob Masliyah is known for his ground-breaking research to improve oil recovery from the Alberta oil sands and reduce its impact on the environment.

Born in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1942, into a family of eight that placed great value on education, Jacob was fortunate to attend the last Hebrew school in Baghdad where the curriculum was conducted in French, with Arabic and English also studied. He therefore had qualifications to be admitted to University College in London, England, where he graduated in Chemical Engineering in 1964. Although Iraqis who were studying abroad were supposed to return to Iraq, the hostility Jews faced in Baghdad forced Jacob to seek other paths. He was accepted at the University of New Brunswick in a Master of Chemical Engineering program and then completed a PhD at the University of British Columbia.



Odette and Dr. Jacob Masliyah

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Calgary wins the JNF Alberta Cup



Congratulations to the Calgary Girouxsaems for winning the 3rd Annual JNF Alberta Cup tournament this past weekend. The tournament was held February 22 & 23, hosted by WEM. Four teams – The Fighting Yids, Chai Sticks, Oyveylers & Girouxsaems – battled for the bragging rights and the Calgary team was victorious. Yasher Koach to everyone who participated.

In 1977, Jacob met and married Odette and accepted an offer from the University of Alberta’s Faculty of Engineering. Jacob became a pioneer in extracting bitumen from the oil sands and his work has greatly contributed to the University of Alberta’s reputation as one of the world’s leading research and teaching institutions. Jacob has authored two books and many articles and has traveled extensively to deliver lectures and keynote presentations at universities, conferences and symposia around the world.

In recognition of his innovative research, Jacob was inducted as an Officer of the Order of Canada (2008) and has been honored with many other awards, including being named a Foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Engineering, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering. In 2013, Jacob received an honorary science degree from the University of Alberta and in 2015 was made a member

of the Alberta Order of Excellence.

Odette Masliyah (nee Ishayak) also was born in Baghdad surrounded by a large extended family and a close-knit Jewish community. Because of the Iraqi government’s hostility towards Jews, the Jewish community placed a strong emphasis on education and good language skills because there constantly loomed the possibility of needing to leave the country. Odette became fluent in Arabic, French and English. In 1967, after the Six-Day War in Israel, Iraqi Jews faced escalating levels of government-sanctioned discrimination and persecution. In 1969, unable to leave Iraq legally, Odette’s family was smuggled into Iran and they eventually made their way to Israel. After taking Hebrew courses, Odette worked for Bank Hapoalim and then the American Embassy in Tel Aviv. About five years later, the family moved to join relatives in Montreal.

Continued on page 2

Presenting the JNF Alberta Cup Trophies



After an exhilarating 24 hours of hockey, the Girouxsaems from Calgary were victorious. Jack Schwartzberg presented the Stevie Schwartzberg Memorial MVP Award to Scotty Swiston. Media Sponsor, Alberta Jewish News editor Dan Moser presented the Jack Cohen Memorial Tournament Trophy to Girouxsaems Captain Will Katz.

Canada’s Jewish cooking guru Norene Gilletz passes away

By Dorothy Lipovenko

(CJN) - Norene Gilletz’s *Second Helpings, Please!* was the ketubah of cookbooks for every Jewish bride setting up a kitchen. Who could get married without a copy?

Is there a Jewish woman from one end of the country to the other who doesn’t own a copy of this cooking classic, which launched editor Gilletz, who died on February 23 in Montreal, into the league of culinary stars.

From recipes for “mock gefilte fish” and “sweet and sour meatballs #1 (and #2!)” to “never- fail sponge cake,” *Second Helpings* functioned as both guide for the culinary perplexed and learned text for the seasoned cook.

Initially a fundraiser for B’nai Brith Women, *Second Helpings* hit it out of the ballpark with its first edition in 1968, and has since racked up another 17 printings.

For the boomer generation of women marrying in the 1970s and ‘80s, our placards for equality were now sharing space with pots and pans. Newlyweds were suddenly confronted with the prospect of preparing not only daily meals from scratch but Shabbat and holiday fare on a grander, more ambitious scale. We turned to *Second Helpings* for help.

Like talmudic students hunched over an ancient tractate, we women were “learning together” in the study hall of our kitchens. On Fridays especially, I would imagine

(and still do) hundreds of us reaching for our copies of *Second Helpings*, swaying back and forth in our aprons flipping pages, pondering recipes and reciting ingredients. That’s my definition of a Jewish sisterhood moment.

Unable to recall if my copy was a gift or self-purchased, I do know *Second Helpings* was on my radar early on, when the family for whom I did babysitting as a teenager were fans of the lemon chicken for Friday night dinner.

Little did I imagine that just a few years later, I’d be thumbing through those same pages for ideas and inspiration for my own Shabbat table.

Sure, other Jewish cookbooks were available but *Second Helpings* was the one I returned to week after week. Mostly for the recipes, which often took me by the hand back to my bubbe’s kitchen, but also for the crash course in technique that began each chapter. Who knew that adding a little sugar to cold water helps carrots to crisp? Or egg whites whipped at room temperature punches up the volume? They didn’t teach me that in journalism school.

In the current overheated gastronomic climate, many dishes in *Second Helpings* seem so basic (does anyone still eat chopped herring?) But to a culinary novice in the 1970s, when quiche and fondue were the height of sophisticated eating, Gilletz elevated our cooking savoir-faire with “Green Beans and Onions Almondine,” “Daube Provincial” and “Vichyssoise,” while honouring our

heritage with batampte recipes for cabbage rolls, blintzes and cheese bagels. To this day, *Second Helpings’* challah and mock gefilte fish enjoy the longest run of any recipes in my kitchen.

My dog-eared copy of *Second Helpings* (Revised Edition) is showing its age: recipes are marked up or splotted with cake batter; the black vinyl binding has finally, after 43 years, loosened its grip on the cover; and, numerous torn pages are hanging on for dear life with brittle Scotch tape. Page 79 with the tuna casserole recipe is only slightly stained, a sentimental reminder of my husband’s earliest attempt at a surprise dinner after my shift at work ran late.

But the wear and tear on this cookbook is testament to the staying power of food prepared without fuss, that relies on tradition to deliver taste. And the joy of it all is that *Second Helpings* works without the need for high-tech appliances, or an artist’s eye to choreograph a plate of vegetables or ice a cake.

To that end, those of us who got our culinary stripes from *Second Helpings* are forever grateful to Norene Gilletz, for giving us confidence at the stove top and showing us the way.

This article was originally published in Canadian Jewish News.

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YEG Negev Honourees

Cont. from page 1

Odette soon met and married Jacob and, after settling in Edmonton, she studied at the University of Alberta graduating with a Bachelor of Education degree specializing in French and Hebrew. Odette taught French for the U of A’s Faculty of Extension and Hebrew for Edmonton Public School’s Continuing Education program. In 1990, Odette began teaching Hebrew at the Edmonton Talmud Torah. She has served on the Board of Directors of Beth Shalom Synagogue and is a frequent Torah reader during Shabbat services there. She was treasurer of the Beth Shalom Women’s League and also volunteered on the Boards of the Jewish Seniors’ Drop-In Centre and the Edmonton Jewish Film Festival. Odette and Jacob have three children, Tamara (Larry), Ruth (Michael) and Daniel (Nicole) and four grandchildren, Ellie, Jasmine, Judah, and Hannah.

The funds raised at the 2020 Negev Gala will go towards the creation of the KKL/JNF Canada House for Excellence, in Sderot, the Israeli city closest to the Gaza border. The KKL/JNF Canada House will serve as an after-school, informal education, empowerment, and enrichment center for high school youth from Sderot and its surroundings. The aim is to provide students with the necessary tools and skills for academic and personal success. Given its location in a volatile region, the facility will be built to withstand direct missile attacks.

Karen Kayemet l’Yisroel (KKL) is matching donations dollar for dollar so, for every dollar raised at the Edmonton Gala, KKL will contribute the same. JNF Canada invites you to join in creating a better Israel by supporting this innovative education and community project.

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Community Skate was a hit at the JNF Alberta Cup



Calgarians laugh themselves silly with JNF



The crowd was roaring with laughter at the Calgary JNF Laugh Yourself Silly event on February 10.

(AJNews) – Calgarians had a delightful opportunity to “laugh themselves silly” on February 10 while celebrating Tu B’Shvat – Festival of Trees, with Jewish National Fund Calgary.

Five brave souls took to the stage to compete in the JNF Calgary stand-up comedy contest at The Comedy Cave, as part of the annual Tu B’Shvat Laugh Yourself Silly comedy night.

“Congratulations to Judges’ pick Brian Hartman, and Audience Favourite Hayley Silberg, and thank you to Shane Gerzon-Kessler, Sam Harris, and Michael Switzer for the bonus laughs,” noted JNF Calgary Executive Director Elliott Steinberg, “and thank you to our MC, Danielle Braitman.”

Feature comedian, Adam Hunter (a veteran of every talk and comedy show on TV) had the crowd roaring with laughter

For more information about JNF programs, visit jnfcalgary.ca or call 403-255-0295.

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Calgary celebrates Jewish Disability awareness, acceptance and inclusion

By Sandra Morton Weizman

Calgary Jewish Federation (CJF) is celebrating its 10th anniversary since striking a Task Force on Inclusion for people with disabilities. For several years, we have participated in the annual world-wide Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month (JDAIM) held every February, where we advocate for the inclusion of people with disabilities and mental health conditions to be active participants in Jewish life. The term “inclusion” can be interpreted in many different ways. To some, it means that any program or service for people is inclusive. To others, it is going beyond programs and services to encourage and support people with disabilities, mental health conditions, and those who love them, so that they participate in Jewish life as they wish. To quote Shelly Christensen, founder and creator of JDAIM, “people with disabilities and mental health conditions just want what everyone else wants: to belong!”

This year, under the capable direction of Inclusion Manager, Karina Szulc, CJF organized two meaningful fun-filled concerts on February 2 with singer/songwriter Joanie Calem, who hails from Columbus, Ohio. Joanie, also a storyteller and Jewish educator, delighted audiences of all ages with a morning concert for PJ Library families and an afternoon concert for the broader Jewish community. Close to 160 people were enraptured by her stories and songs. As a parent of a young adult with autism, Joanie presented “concert conversations” about the complexity of creating inclusive communities that can work for all of our members.

In honour of JDAIM, CJF sponsored an “Inclusion” essay-writing contest for grades 6-9 students from

Halpern Akiva Academy, Calgary Jewish Federation as well as Jewish students from other schools. Students were invited to express their thoughts about disability and how attitudes and actions affect people with disabilities. This idea was largely inspired by a presentation they attended by Shelly Christensen, Jewish inclusion specialist from Minneapolis, who visited Calgary this past December. Eighteen contestants participated. Cash prizes, generously donated by the Fania & Leo z'l Wedro Community Fund., were awarded to the top three essay winners in two separate categories: Division A (Grades 6-7); First prize: Charlie Shore, grade 6, CJA; Second prize: Emilia Jorgensen, grade 6, McKenzie Highlands; Third prize: Mia-Ruby Bassin, grade 7, Halpern Akiva Academy. In Division B (Grades 8-9), the winners were: First prize: Uma Fourman, grade 8, CJA, Second prize: Georgia Martin, grade 8, Halpern Akiva Academy, and Third prize: Kedem Segal, grade 9, Halpern Akiva Academy.

Also launched in February is a unique 10-week Ability Arts Workshop. Held at the JCC and facilitated by the talented artist, Julianna Enciu, this program includes participants of all abilities (also known as reverse inclusion), from age 12 and up and involves all performers acting, singing and dancing in celebration of diversity and ability. The program’s final performances will take place on May 17.

If you are interested in learning more, in participating in future programs, or require assistance with accommodations in order to participate in Jewish community events, please contact Karina Szulc, Inclusion Manager, Calgary Jewish Federation at karinas@jewishcalgary.org or call her at 403-444-3158.



Top L-R: Karina Szulc, Fanny Wedro, first place essay contest winner Division A - Charlie Shore, Bottom: first place contest winner Division B - Uma Fourman.

Sandra Morton Weizman chairs the Inclusion Committee and is a board member of the Calgary Jewish Federation.

B'nai Brith Canada launches lawsuit against federal government

OTTAWA – B'nai Brith Canada has filed a lawsuit against the federal government, citing its failure to comply with a motion to list Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), in its entirety, as a terrorist organization.

The action, specifically launched against both the government and the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, comes about five weeks after B'nai Brith, the Council of Iranian Canadians and the Justice 88 Campaign publicly urged the implementation of a motion passed by the House of Commons in June of 2018.

"We made it clear last month that no further delays by the government would be accepted by Canadians," said Michael Mostyn, Chief Executive Officer of B'nai Brith Canada. "Unfortunately, there is no alternative at this point to legal recourse. It is intolerable that 20 months have elapsed since this important motion passed, and no action has been taken by our government to implement it.

"The IRGC poses a very serious security threat to Canadians. Listing it as a terrorist entity in this country is necessary to deter this threat and reduce its ability to do harm."

The lawsuit, B'nai Brith Senior Legal Counsel David Matas explained, asks the Court to respond to the request B'nai Brith has made to list the IRGC as a terrorist entity.

The IRGC was responsible for last month's downing of a civilian airplane in Tehran, killing 57 Canadians and another 81 people who were travelling to Canada.

It is tasked with protecting Iran's brutal Islamist dictatorship and supporting its international terrorist proxies. Its principle objective is to fuel and fund terrorism. It suppresses Iran's own people and is a serious public security threat throughout the Middle East and around the world.

The IRGC has been responsible for sponsoring, orchestrating and carrying out many deadly terror attacks on foreign soil, from the bombing of the AMIA Jewish community centre in Argentina to the killing of hundreds of U.S. service people and civilians in Iraq, to the recent siege of the U.S. embassy in Baghdad, to conducting terrorist plots in Germany, just to name a few.

So what does it mean to be listed as a terrorist group in Canada?

Groups listed as terrorists in Canada are forbidden from legally operating in the country. In addition, a listing forbids Canadians from supporting or funding the terrorist group. As of now, it is fully legal for any Canadian to provide funds to brutal and dangerous terrorist groups if they are not listed. That is why listing the IRGC is necessary.

The House of Commons motion in June of 2018 was sponsored by Sherwood Park-Fort Saskatchewan MP Garnett Genuis, who asked the government to "immediately" list the IRGC as a terrorist entity. All Conservative and Liberal MPs in attendance voted in favour.

The United States formally listed the IRGC as a terrorist group in April of 2019. Canada previously listed the Quds Force, the IRGC's external operations branch, but not the umbrella organization.

"Today," Mostyn said, "the Islamist regime is undoubtedly seeking to avenge the killing of its IRGC General (Qasem Soleimani, killed by a U.S. air strike Jan. 3). Canadians are more at risk than ever by the IRGC. Our safety concerns are pragmatic, moral and urgent.

"The government must act immediately - and our lawsuit aims to ensure this immediate action."

Pesach in the Mountains

APRIL 9 - 10

Experience a communal-led Second Seder surrounded by beautiful Kananaskis vistas at the Wilderness Hostel. Enjoy a Passover service and delicious Seder dinner, outdoor self-guided hike and forest meditations, campfire, wood-burning lounge fireplace, family-friendly activities, and more!

Package includes: One night accommodation, catered dinner and breakfast, wine, and outdoor activity.

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Family (2 adults, 2 children 6 -16 yrs): \$325

Extra wine: \$20

Meat not kosher. Vegetarian option available. No leavened food

Register by March 27 at JCC Customer Service Desk or call 403-253-8600, ext.0

For more information contact Shula Banchik at shula@cjjc.ca or 403-537-8596

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4:00PM: Tango – A Story with Jews
Documentary film from Argentina (62 min)
Q&A with Director Gabriel Pomeranec

5:30PM: Argentine Dinner
A buffet of typical foods from different regions of the country*

7:00PM: Tango Lesson 101
A step-by-step lesson for all of us
No partner needed. Tango instructor: Diego Smola

8:00 - 9:00PM: Tango Show & Milonga Party
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For more information contact Shula Banchik at 403-537-8596 or shula@cjjc.ca

Beth Israel presents world premiere performance of *Girl from Treblinka* in Edmonton

(EJNews) – Beth Israel Synagogue is pleased to announce its presentation of a world premiere performance of “Girl from Treblinka,” a play recently written by Leonard Stone dealing with the struggle between good and evil, the horrors of the Holocaust and the deep unknown of the afterlife.

The singular evening performance will take place in the synagogue’s sanctuary at 131 Wolf Willow Road in Edmonton on April 26 at 7:15 pm (sharp). With creative support from Betty Schaffel, the play will feature a couple of Alberta’s finest performers, and actors from Winnipeg, Denver, and New York City.

“We are thrilled to be staging this world premiere performance for the Edmonton Jewish Community and we also expect to see numerous audience members from the general community, theatre enthusiasts and people interested in the Second World War, and the Holocaust,” said Associate Producer, Shane Asbell. “Our goal is to sell every seat in the Sanctuary.”

“Girl from Treblinka” tells the story of Frida Blume, a German Jewish woman who was slaughtered at the Treblinka concentration camp, and Karl Blix, a Nazi soldier harbouring an unthinkable secret and responsible for the elimination of hundreds of Jews, find themselves

forced to share the same space after their deaths, where transformation from life to spirit occurs.

“Girl from Treblinka” was written by Winnipeg native Leonard David Stone, a fifty-year internationally recognized administrator in the cultural arts, and the author of *TRUMAN’S JEW* which premiered at Beth Israel Synagogue in 2017.

The Beth Israel performance of “Girl from Treblinka” takes place just days after Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day, and in this the 75th year Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and the ending of the Holocaust.

“This is an extraordinary opportunity for the Edmonton community and the net proceeds will go towards Beth Israel Synagogue and Jewish Federation’s Holocaust Education in Edmonton,” explained Asbell.



On April 26, 2020 the world premiere performance of a new play by Leonard David Stone - 'Girl from Treblinka' - will premiere at Beth Israel Synagogue in Edmonton. Pictured above: Members of the ensemble cast of 'Truman's Jew,' with Stone at the Beth Israel reading in December 2017.

Please join Stone, Beth Israel the Family Shul, and Jewish Federation on April 26. Tickets cost \$75.00 and are available at familyshul.org/Treblinka or by calling the Beth Israel office at (780) 488-2840.

Update on the future of the Edmonton JCC

At the recent Jewish Federation of Edmonton Annual General Meeting, JFED President, Steve Shafir provided the community with an update about the plans for a Jewish Community Centre. Negotiations between the JCC committee and the Talmud Torah Society were suspended last year when differences arose about the construction of stand alone centre or an addition to the school, as well as matters related to the finances.

At the recent AGM Shafir said, “We continue to explore options for a Jewish Community Centre in Edmonton. We are taking into account consultations made with the community and will proceed accordingly based on the community’s wishes through those consultations.”

Shafir noted that there is “no solution foreseeable that would make sense for our community. Therefore, we have retained legal counsel to assist us with obtaining a further extension from CRA for use of the sale proceeds” that have been designated for a JCC.

He indicated that some decisions have been made regarding the use of the JCC funds, where the funds will still be set aside for a future JCC but that some of the accrued interest will be used for community matters – particularly those related to the prospective JCC.

Shafir explained, “To date, the funds from the sale of the JCC have been held in very conservative investments that have realized an average of no more than 2% annually in

interest. Funds were held in a manner in which we could easily liquidate in order to build. Now that we are in a period whereby we do not know when a JCC will be built, we have decided to move the funds into investments that will yield a higher return. At the same time, we want to maintain the generation of 2% interest to be held in the fund for a future JCC. Additional funds over the 2% interest earned will be used to pay the debts owing by the Jewish Community Centre to its creditors, toward shortfalls of revenues of the JCC over and above JCC expenses and lastly toward the annual United Jewish Appeal campaign.”

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Monuments: We in Canada should know better



Myrna Kostash

By Myrna Kostash

I snatched up the November issue of *Edmonton Jewish News* when I saw, above the fold, the bold headline, “YEG monument glorifies Nazi Collaborator” and feared the worst: this would be about Ukrainians.

It was, and my heart sank. The reporter, Daniel Moser, had stumbled on the story (carried by a podcast of Progress Alberta’s *Progress*

Report) of the monument that stands in the grounds of Edmonton’s Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex – dedicated to the memory of Roman Shukhevych.

Daniel Moser asks: “Why is there a statue memorializing a Nazi collaborator, who participated in genocide, in our city?”

From 1923 Shukhevych’s entire military career was dedicated to the national liberation of Ukraine, whether by political assassination in Poland (1926) or by commando operations when attached to an elite Nazi German special forces unit (1941) or by pogroms against Jews and the mass murder of Polish civilians by the UPA (1943-1945) in western Ukraine. He was supreme commander of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army [UPA] from 1943 until his death in a firefight with Soviet State Security agents in 1950.

While the facts of these matters are uncontested by disinterested current scholarship, their meaning is contested. As Moser reported, some Ukrainian-Canadians honour Roman Shukhevych as a warrior and martyr for the sacred cause of liberating Ukraine from her oppressors. For others, he is a dishonourable collaborator with Nazi Germany and its fascist ideology and a perpetrator of war crimes. As the Toronto writer Erna Paris recently wrote (about how the Holocaust is remembered by today’s Jewish communities): “Contested historical narratives provoke impassioned debate.”

I have tried to stay out of this one.

In neither of these impassioned “debates” have I felt implicated. I have oriented myself as a writer unerringly to the politics of my North American generation.

And then I went to Ukraine. Several times. And hereby hangs a tale of two monuments.

In 1984 I visited my maternal grandparents’ village in western Ukraine, Dzhuriv. My relatives walked me to a small cenotaph dedicated to the memory of their war dead. A triumphant red star is inscribed on its marble base, and the words, “To Our Countrymen Who Perished on the Fronts of the Great Patriotic War and at the Hands of the Ukrainian Bourgeois Nationalists, with Gratitude from the Workers of the Village of Dzhuriv.” I read two columns of engraved names. In one, those who fought on the fronts; in the other, those who “perished at the hands of Ukrainian bourgeois nationalists,” and I read the name of Kosovan, Yuri P. my Baba’s baby brother. A Soviet hero.

In 2013 I visit my paternal grandparents’ village, Tulova. In 1990, on the eve of Ukrainian independence from the Soviet Union, a group of Tulova’s youth began a cultural circle, “For Freedom,” and proceeded to renew village monuments that had been “ruined by the totalitarian system of the Communist Party.” Also in the works, a monument “to the Heroes of Ukraine from Tulova Village, especially the six active participants in the Ukrainian National Organization-Ukrainian Insurgent Army, who gave their young lives for the freedom and independence of Ukraine. Eternal Be Their Memory.”

Good as done. In 2013 I view them all, plaques, crosses, wreaths, national symbols and inscribed tablets, and I make note of all the Kostash boys who had joined the UPA and were dead by 1951.

The families in Canada had no idea. Neither of these “heroisms,” Soviet and nationalist, were part of our collective memory. Our forebears had arrived in 1900; we were busily becoming multi-cultural in a western democracy.

But on that same trip around Galicia in 2013 I became aware that these gaps in collective memory were part of a larger “absence,” that of westerners’ woeful ignorance of realities of World War II east of Berlin. Jews and Ukrainians are “disappeared” in this ignorance. Writing in Forward magazine online, Jewish scholar Izabella Tabarovsky refers to the “other Holocaust,” that consumed 1.6 million Jewish lives in Nazi-occupied Ukraine. As with this “holocaust by bullet,” not in the gas chambers of Auschwitz, no less than 800,000 Jews perished in the territory of modern-day Belarus. Scholars estimate the number of the victims in Lithuania to be 165,000 to 254,000. In each case, there was active collaboration in their destruction by the local Ukrainian, Belarusian and Lithuanian populations. All Ukrainians suffered at least 40% of the total war-time losses of the USSR –

unsurprisingly, given that the whole of Ukraine (and temporarily a portion of western Russia) was swallowed by the Nazi occupiers. And this also explains, where explanation is required, why the majority of Jews killed under occupation died on Ukrainian soil. While Jews were gassed in wagons and cut down by bullets at the edge of pits dug outside all towns, 2.4 million ethnic Ukrainians were shipped as slave labour to Germany.

Growing up in Canada, what did I know? I read *The Diary of Anne Frank* and saw the movie when I was in junior high school, haunted and aggrieved for years by a single extinction. It wasn’t until I was in university and read the script of *Ballad of a Soldier* in Russian literature class that I became aware of the “other Second World war.”

But when I travelled in Ukraine in 2013 I knew much, much more about both catastrophes. I saw that western Ukrainians are now free to mourn and memorialize their demonized dead on their own terms – erecting grandiose statues of the UPA fallen and flying their flag in an exercise of the return of suppressed memory. But I grew increasingly agitated by the absence of any public remembrance of the catastrophic loss of Ukrainian Jews. It is still within living memory that their homes and synagogues and market places were an integral part of Ukrainian space, but they were not marked. Neither are the pits in which they are buried en masse. It was only when I asked, that my relatives in Zabolotiv took me to see the remnants of a Jewish cemetery behind the town stadium.

Erna Paris wrote of Holocaust survivors, “some of whom have preferred the commemoration of their unprecedented life tragedy over professional history,” an observation I make of Ukrainian-Canadians who “prefer” the lionization of “the glory of fallen fighters” over professional history of their ferocious exploits. Or, as Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky put it in a recent interview with *The Times of Israel*, “of course in Ukraine, like everywhere in the world, now and in the past, there is some per cent of people who don’t see anyone except their [own] nation.”

But we in Canada should know better. We have the opportunity, within our democratic institutions, locally, ethnically and nationally, to prefer what Dominique Arel, Professor and holder of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa, calls “democratic political memory.”

Myrna Kostash is an award winning author who was born and raised in Edmonton.

Bustle & Beast presents Girl in the Machine

Edmonton - A one-of-a-kind immersive theatre experience is coming to TELUS World of Science – Edmonton’s Zeidler Dome, where live theatre and digital media merge in a captivating story of love, connection and technology.

“Girl in the Machine” explores digital dependency and human relationships with the help of state-of-the-art 10K resolution in the Zeidler Dome immersed into a live theatre performance. It offers audiences a 360-degree visual experience in an intimate setting. The production team includes homegrown and international talent with six University of Alberta graduates and a projection designer who has made his mark from Broadway to Opera Australia.

This is the first theatrical production in the Zeidler Dome since its extensive renovation and the first theatre production in twenty years. It’s not to be missed!

“When I walked into the Dome, I knew immediately it was the perfect space for this production,” says Director Brenley Charkow. “It was imperative that the performance space and the play work symbiotically together.”

Girl in the Machine shares the gripping, emotional story of Polly and Owen. When a new gadget – a Black Box – enters their lives, the couple is forced to navigate the powerful force in their relationship: technology addiction.

Whether it is the ping of a notification, citizen chips embedded under the skin, the repeated cycles of anxiety and exhaustion, this project examines a very realistic future of the complete disintegration of communication with the world around us,” Charkow adds.

Girl in the Machine is written by Stef Smith, an Olivier-award winning playwright and recently short-listed for the prestigious Susan Smith Blackburn Prize in writing for her new play, “Nora: A Doll’s House.” It is presented by Bustle & Beast Theatre- an award-winning independent Theatre company.



Brenley Charkow



Beth Graham

Girl in the Machine opens March 3, 2020 and runs till March 8 at TELUS World of Science – Edmonton, located at 11211 142 Street NW. Shows run nightly at 7:30 p.m. with matinee performances Saturday and Sunday, March 7 & 8 at 4:30 p.m.

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Simchas and Celebrations Feature

Festival Hatzafon returns to YEG on March 19

As the weather slowly changes, we are reminded that Festival Hatzafon is right around the corner! Festival Hatzafon, which literally translates to “Festival of the North,” started nine years ago as a showcase of Israeli dance talent. The Festival is a true celebration of Israeli dance and culture that is sure to entertain community members of all ages and affiliations. Festival Hatzafon has proven to be and continues to be a true collaboration of different Jewish and community organizations. It unquestioningly provides a unique opportunity to bring people from many diverse backgrounds together.

The Festival this year is themed ‘Jewish Geography’ so we only found it fitting to use our compass and head to the MacLab Centre for the Performing Arts in Leduc, Alberta where we can all connect to watch the talented dancers and performers. We invite all community members to join us on Thursday, March 19th at 7:00pm for the performance and a nosh in the lobby to follow. The centre is located in the Leduc Composite High School.

The show’s main performance will include the incredibly talented Aviv Dancers and teen groups Mayim and Shemesh. The show will also include the younger elementary school dancers from Rikud Academy. The younger dancers from Rikud Academy are always showstoppers and sure to delight. The dancers’ repertoire is growing exponentially, and this year, many new dance numbers will be premiered by the Aviv, Mayim, Shemesh, and Rikud Academy dance groups. As well, this year we have a special local artist participating! Emily Levine, an Aviv Dancer alumnus, will be treating us to a vocal performance as part of this year’s festival!

The Aviv Israeli Folk Dance Association began as only a handful of adult dancers meeting once a week at the old JCC. It quickly evolved to become a multigenerational, nondenominational dance academy exhibiting a polished, professional style. The goal of the Aviv Israeli Folk Dance Association is to spread peace, tolerance and understanding to as many people as possible.

The Rikud Academy came into being when Aviv Israeli Folk Dance Association’s Founder and Artistic Director Sari Uretsky Leung recognized a need for Jewish youth to unite and engage in an educational and physically stimulating dance activity.

With the advent of Rikud Academy at Talmud Torah, the school halls have been filled with Israeli music and dance, both traditional and modern. The students’ enthusiasm



Festival Hatzafon - a celebration of Israeli dance and culture will be held on March 19, 2020.

often carries over into their recess time where they can be found on the playing field practicing their newly acquired Rikud Academy dance skills! We certainly enjoy seeing our former Talmud Torah students returning as assistant Rikud Academy teachers who pass on their love of Israeli dance to younger students. Talmud Torah is proud of the Rikud Academy Israeli dancers and is excited to invite their school community to support the students at Festival Hatzafon by attending the show!

We would like to take a very important moment to thank the volunteers who have been working tirelessly to put on an event of this magnitude. Your time and commitment are very appreciated. Furthermore, without the support of

our generous sponsors our Festival Hatzafon would not be possible. The Aviv Israeli Folk Dance Association and Festival Hatzafon would like to thank The Schayer Family, NCJWC Edmonton, General Recycling, Cushman & Wakefield, The Jewish Federation of Edmonton, Witten LLP, Sobey's Lewis Estates and Firehouse Graphics. We couldn't have done it without you. Thank you.

Tickets are available for purchase at festivalhatzafon.com, at the Talmud Torah School office, or at the door for \$22. For more information please feel free to contact us at aifdaedmonton@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at the show and for a nosh in the lobby!

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Cabaret coming to Calgary's Front Row Centre

By Judy Shapiro

Cabaret is one of those award-winning, hit musicals that never gets old. Originally staged in 1966 in New York, followed by the hit movie directed by Bob Fosse in 1972, the play has seen a number of successful revivals in New York and London. Now, Calgary's Front Row Centre Players is in rehearsal for their upcoming production, directed by Kristine Astop.

Why does *Cabaret* keep coming back?

"It's a classical musical," explained Astop. "Everybody knows parts of it."

The decadent Kit Kat Klub, the outrageous Emcee, sympathetic writer Cliff Bradshaw and compelling cabaret

singer Sally Bowles may be familiar, but the story bears repeating. Set in 1930s Berlin, *Cabaret* explores the dark, heady, and tumultuous life of Berlin's natives and expatriates as Germany slowly yields to the emerging Third Reich.

"The reason the play continues to be staged, is because the themes are still very relevant today," Astop said. "Look at what's happening in the world. Persecution continues to happen. We think it would never happen again, but it could. It's terrifying that [discrimination, antisemitism] doesn't go away, so the story has to be re-told."

Although the play is really about the rise of Nazi Germany, that theme is subtle in a way, as the plot focusses on the lives of the main characters.



Calgary's Front Row Centre Players are performing 'Cabaret' from March 20 to April 4.

Continued on page 17

Costume Shoppe is having a Purim sale



Costume Shoppe owner Ryan Schoel

With Purim right around the corner, members of the Jewish community are turning their attention to costumes and there is no better place to visit than the Costume Shoppe located on the corner of 42 Avenue and Blackfoot Trail in Calgary.

The Costume Shoppe is an amazing year-round costume store, with a huge selection of costumes and accessories to purchase, and thousands of rental costumes as well.

"We are a Calgary family owned and operated business," noted Costume Shoppe owner Ryan Schoel.

"With over 10,000 costumes to purchase, another 15,000 to rent, along with thousands of different types of accessories and crafting materials, we believe that if you can imagine it, we can help you create it."

Ryan says that the current Costume Shoppe sale is perfectly timed for Purim. "Our sale, that is going on right now, may prove to be even more useful to those celebrating Purim this month," he said.

"I have attached a coupon in this newspaper that people in Calgary can walk in and use, and because we do ship to Edmonton, with the coupon code Purim, the discount is available to all Alberta Jewish News readers."

Not many stores in Calgary have a mezuzah on the front door, but the Costume Shoppe does. "I'm not a religious person," said Ryan, "but I am a member of the Jewish community, here in Calgary."

Born and raised in the Montreal area, Ryan moved to Calgary 21 years ago. "Both my children went to the Jewish day school, Akiva Academy," he noted, "and my wife at one point, for a few years worked at the Jewish Academy and the JCC."

Ryan knows that many people buy their costumes from mega stores but he urges community members to visit his local shop for their costumes and accessories.

"In a perfect world we can talk about a business like mine, its relevance as a brick and mortar store, as well as a force online here

in Alberta," he remarked. "But in addition to that I would challenge community members to look at my pricing, they may be very pleasantly surprised."

The Costume Shoppe is great for Purim and for Halloween, but it is open all year long for countless other events too.

"We are here all year long and can help you create for any type of event," explained Ryan. "Whether that's a local expo, themed night, or perhaps a Murder Mystery dinner that you're attending, we can help you create the perfect look so you can have the perfect memory."

The store is a welcoming place with a knowledgeable staff that are eager to help all customers find just the right costume.

"The Costume Shoppe, its staff and the items that we carry tailor to - and are part of - so many different types of communities from all walks of life. Everyone from local Cosplayers, to artists, to members of the LGBTQ community, and of course to each and every family or individual that walks through our doors or orders from us online are all welcome here," adds Ryan.

"Come visit us at our store or shop from home on Canada's costume website www.thecostumeshoppe.com; we have free delivery with any purchase over \$85.00. You can even order online and pick up in store to try it on! We will have what you expect from a costume store and much more!"



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Purim Recipes

By Norene Gilletz



Norene Gilletz z”l

Looking for some pareve Purim treats for your Purim baskets for *mishloach manot* or to serve for your Purim *seudah*? Try these new angles on traditional treats from Canadian Jewish cooking guru Norene Gilletz, who passed away earlier this month. May her memory be a blessing.

Poppy Seed Sugar Cookies / Haman’s Hats

Adapted from “The NEW Food Processor Bible” by Norene Gilletz

These easy, versatile cookies are fun to make with the kids! If you cut them in triangles, you can call them “Haman’s Hats!”

- 2 eggs
 - 3/4 cup sugar
 - 1/2 cup canola oil
 - 1/4 cup orange juice or water
 - 3 cups flour
 - 2 tsp baking powder
 - additional sugar for dipping
- Preheat oven to 375°F.



In a food processor fitted with the Steel Blade, process eggs with sugar, oil and juice until blended, about 5 seconds. Add baking powder and flour. Process just until mixed, using on/off pulses. Do not over-process.

Divide dough into 4 pieces. Roll each piece on a lightly floured surface into a rectangle about 1/8th inch thick. Using assorted cookie cutters, cut in different shapes. Dip each cookie lightly in sugar. Place sugar-side up on parchment-lined cookie sheets. Bake at 375°F for 8 to 10 minutes, until golden.

Yield: 4 to 5 dozen. Freezes well.

Haman’s Hats: Add 1/4 cup poppy seeds with dry ingredients. Roll out dough thinly, then cut in triangles using a fluted pastry wheel or pizza cutter. Dip in sugar and bake as directed. Perfect for Purim!

Hamentaschen

Fill these triangular treats with homemade or store-bought fillings. You can also use thick preserves or canned poppy seed filling.

Basic Oil Dough (recipe follows)

Filling of your choice (recipes follow)

- 1 egg yolk beaten with 2 tsp water

Prepare dough and desired filling as directed. (Can be prepared in advance and refrigerated or frozen.)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Divide dough into 4 equal pieces. Flour each piece of dough lightly. Roll out on a floured surface to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut into 3-inch circles, using a round cookie cutter or a small juice glass.

Place a spoonful of filling on each circle. Bring up 3 sides to meet, then pinch edges of dough together to form a triangle. Repeat with remaining dough and filling.

Place on sprayed foil-lined cookie sheets. Brush with egg glaze.

Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until golden.

Yield: about 4 dozen. Freezes well.

Basic Oil Dough

Adapted from “The New Food Processor Bible” by Norene Gilletz

This dough is excellent as a pareve cookie dough or is ideal for Hamentaschen. Try some of the scrumptious fillings (below).

- 1 medium-sized seedless orange (thin-skinned)
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 2 3/4 cups flour (approximately)
- 2 tsp baking powder

Cut orange in quarters but do not peel. Process in a food processor until fine, using the steel blade, about 25 seconds. Add eggs, sugar and oil. Process for 10 seconds. Add flour and baking powder. Process with several on/off's, just until flour is blended into dough. Do not over-process. Dough will be fairly sticky. Remove from bowl with a rubber spatula onto a lightly floured surface. Use as directed.

Yield: enough dough for 4 dozen Hamentaschen.

Five fruit filling

Adapted from *Healthy Helpings* by Norene Gilletz

- 1 medium seedless orange (thin-skinned)
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup pitted dates
- 1 cup pitted prunes
- 1 cup dried apricots

Cut orange into chunks, but do not peel. Cut away both the navel and the stem end. In the processor, process orange until finely ground, about 20 seconds. Add remaining ingredients and process until finely ground, about 15 to 20 seconds. Scrape down sides of bowl as necessary.

Yield: about 3 cups filling.

Note: 1 cup filling is enough to fill 12 to 16 Hamentaschen, depending on size. Mixture can be prepared in advance and refrigerated for several days, or frozen.

Prune Filling

Adapted from “The New Food Processor Bible” by Norene Gilletz

- 1 medium seedless orange
- 12 oz pkg pitted prunes (see Tip below)
- 1 1/2 cups raisins

- 1/4 cup walnuts (optional)
- 2 Tbsp sugar or granular Splenda (optional)

Cut orange in quarters but do not peel. Use a food processor fitted with the steel blade to prepare the filling. (If you have a smaller processor, you may have to do this in 2 batches.)

Process orange until fine, about 20 seconds. Add remaining ingredients and process 15 to 20 seconds, until fine.

Yield: 2 1/2 cups filling (enough for 4 to 5 dozen Hamentaschen). Freezes well.

Tip: Feel prunes with your fingertips to make sure they don’t contain pits or you could damage the steel blade.

Apricot Almond Triangles

Adapted from “The New Food Processor Bible” by Norene Gilletz

These are jam-good! You’ll go nuts over them.

- 1 cup margarine, cut in chunks
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 3/4 cup finely ground almonds
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups apricot jam
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1/2 cup slivered almonds

Preheat oven to 350 F. Spray a 9 x 13 x 2-inch baking pan with non-stick spray.

For the base: In a food processor fitted with the steel blade, process margarine, flour, ground

Almonds, sugar and vanilla until crumbly, about 20 seconds. Reserve 1 1/2 cups of crumb mixture for topping. Press remaining mixture evenly into prepared pan. Bake for 20 minutes, until golden.

For the topping: Mix apricot jam with lemon juice; spread evenly over base. Crumble reserved crumb mixture over jam layer, and then sprinkle with slivered almonds.

Bake 30 minutes longer, until golden. Cool completely.

Cut with a sharp knife into 24 squares, then cut each in half diagonally to form 48 triangles.

Yield: 4 dozen. Freezes well.

Norene Gilletz z”l is the leading author of kosher cookbooks in Canada. She passed away this month in Montreal. Her motto is “Food that’s good for you should taste good!” For more information, visit at www.gourmania.com.

HAPPY PURIM!

Mazal Tov!

Mira & Joey Feldman Jappenden

were married at Beth Tzedec in Calgary on February 1, 2020.

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PURIM

BTZ Seniors' Purim Luncheon

Sunday March 8 - 12:00pm

Celebrate the holiday with a delicious lunch prepared by Beth Tzedec Congregation members. Open to all Calgary Jewish community seniors free of charge.

Pre-Megillah Purim Carnival

Monday March 9 - 5:00-6:30pm

Come celebrate, share your happiness and let us handle the rest!

Special kid-friendly Megillah reading, refreshments and hamentaschen, arts and crafts, carnival games.

Light Dinner: \$5.00 ticket purchase

Event is free of charge. Please bring a non-perishable item for the Food Bank.

BTZ Megillah Reading and Party

Monday March 9 - 6:30pm

Participate in a spirited service led by Cantor Russ. Let's all celebrate the deliverance of the Jewish people from the wicked Haman (booooo!!!) in the days of Queen Esther (yaaaaay!!!). Come in costume!

Event is free of charge. Please bring a non-perishable item for the Food Bank.

(Traditional Megillah Reading - Tuesday March 10 at 7:45am)

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community calendar

Want to know what's going on in Jewish Calgary?

Check out the Community Calendar at jewishcalgary.org

Have an event?

Click on "Suggest an Event" to add it to the calendar



A MESSAGE FROM ADAM

As Purim quickly approaches, we anticipate not only a holiday full of family fun, but an important time in history during which the evil Haman and his family plotted to destroy our people. We know Purim to be a celebration of victory, the triumph of our people over evil, and a time during which we staved off execution. We reflect on the bravery of Vashti in maintaining her pride when instructed by her husband, King Ahasuerus, to embarrass herself. We think of Queen Esther, who risked her life and status by telling the king that his most trusted advisor, Haman, did not have his best interests in mind and was using him in his plot to kill the Jewish people. We also must remember Mordecai, whose very commitment to doing the right thing by informing Esther to tell King Ahasuerus about an assassination attempt, and then refusing to bow to Haman leads to Haman's despising of him.

Purim is rich with content and lessons – equity and equality, honour and ethics, jealousy and karma, and ultimately, respect. We learn from two strong and intelligent women – Vashti and Esther – to maintain dignity and to act with strategy and conviction. We learn

from Mordecai to hold our values dear and to conduct ourselves with honour. From Haman, we learn about hate and envy. The story of Purim teaches us to remain principled at any cost, to stand as a united community, and to strategize and take action to address challenges and threats.

In life, we are often faced with choices which might not be personally harmful and in which we have no direct stake, but which might be harmful to others. It is our choice, and I suggest our imperative, to stand up and 'do the right thing' even if it might draw us into a challenging situation that we might have otherwise been able to avoid. If we can help others, we should. If we can support one another, we should. If we can solve community challenges, we should.

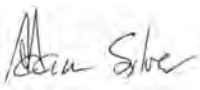
In some synagogues I've attended for Purim, at some point during the telling of the Purim story, at the reading of *Megillat Esther*, there is a shift. We are taught to listen very carefully for Haman's name so we can use our groggers or other noisemakers, or even "boo" to blot out his name. We are very patient, waiting several chapters until we can drown out his name. However, in some

synagogues people continue to blot out Haman's name, but also cheer for Esther, Mordecai, and the fortunate twists of the story.

I would like to suggest that we continue to acknowledge the challenges we face and to drown out expressions of Antisemitism and hate, but I would also like to suggest that we equally cheer for and champion the beauty of our Judaism, as well as applaud and thank those who stand by our side as a community.

Using our groggers on these matters remains incredibly important, but it is equally important for us to cheer and celebrate. In the coming month, let's continue to stand against what is wrong, stand for what is right, and celebrate our successes and our amazing Jewish Calgary every chance we have.

B'Shalom,


Adam Silver
CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation

Building an inclusive community is a priority. Contact us and we will make every effort to meet your needs.

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE



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Calgary Jewish Federation's Integrated Bursary Program can help you, if you find it's a financial struggle to participate fully in Jewish life in our community.

With one application followed by a discreet and personalized session with a Federation volunteer, you can access subsidies for day schools, summer camp, and recreational activities – depending on your need. Applications available at jewishcalgary.org or at Calgary JCC, Halpern Akiva Academy, JFSC (Jewish Family Service Calgary), and The Calgary Jewish Academy.

• • • Application Deadline: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 • • •

For information email ibp@jewishcalgary.org or go online: jewishcalgary.org/ibp-making-jewish-life-more-affordable


Yasher Koach to students from The Calgary Jewish Academy who continue to make a difference in their school and community! Students gifted Calgary Jewish Federation with a cheque for \$500 in support of the 2019 United Jewish Appeal Campaign. We thank and commend these young philanthropists for their generosity and community stewardship.



AVI SHABBAT INTERFAITH DINNER



On February 21, students from a variety of faith, cultural, and political backgrounds joined Hillel Calgary at Beth Tzedec Congregation for the annual Avi Shabbat Interfaith Dinner. Based on the values and works of Avi Shaefer, this North American initiative was originally created to promote interfaith encounters and open dialogue around the Israel-Palestine conflict. Guests took part in traditional Friday night services and actively participated in candle lighting and *kiddush*. Student leaders facilitated conversation which challenged participants to reflect on and share their values, beliefs, and traditions. Special thanks to Cantor Russell Jayne and the Beth Tzedec, Adriana Tulissi of the University of Calgary's Faith and Spirituality Centre, the students of the Kaleidoscope Project, CIJA, Hillel, and The Avi Shaefer Fund.



All activities on these two pages are made possible by your gifts to Federation's annual UJA Campaign




INCLUSION ESSAY CONTEST

MESHANE HA BRIOT CELEBRATING DIFFERENCES

BEING INCLUSIVE, MAKING A BETTER WORLD




In honour of **JEWISH DISABILITY AWARENESS, ACCEPTANCE, AND INCLUSION MONTH 2020**, students in grades six to nine were invited to submit an essay about inclusion. All participants received recognition for their submission; with first, second, and third place prizes provided by The Fania & Leo^zl Wedro Community Fund. The first place essays for our two divisions: grades 6-7 and grades 8-9 are presented below.



PERSPECTIVES ON INCLUSION
BY CHARLIE SHORE, GRADE 6 (THE CALGARY JEWISH ACADEMY)
The Oxford Dictionary definition of inclusion is the act or state of including or being included in a group or structure. People have different perspectives on inclusion and what it means. It doesn't matter what you look like or what differences people have, every person no matter what should be included in activities and experiences that they want to participate in. Several years ago, Calgary Jewish Federation dedicated itself to including everybody in their programming, and they worked hard on helping children or anybody with special needs, and their families, participate and be included in activities within and outside of the Jewish community. People who believe in inclusion, believe that these differences do matter, but should also be accepted, respected, admired and even celebrated. Inclusion is important to me because I have family and friends with special needs, my dad works with children with special needs, and because I am Jewish and what my community does is part of who I am. I decided to interview four different people, to get different perspectives on the importance of inclusion, and the challenges of including people. These people include a mom and son who has special needs, a speech therapist and a peer helper.

Person 1 - Mother of child with autism
What have been some successful examples of Mac being included?
Mac was in a hip hop class by himself and he didn't go with anybody helping him but the teacher knew that he had different abilities.
What strategies have helped make inclusion more successful?
One strategy was preparing because new things for Mac were stressful and exciting at the same time and it was hard to just walk into a new environment.
What has Mac's inclusion taught other people?
Mac's inclusion has taught kids at school that everyone has different abilities and has different things that they are good at.
Are there challenges with Mac's inclusion with his extended family?
Yes, one of the reasons is that Mac can't concentrate when lots of people are talking and that is one of the things that happens quite often.

Person 2 - Child with autism
What do you like to do by yourself?
Like to play Hotwheels, Mario and Superheroes.
What do you like to do with other people?
Like to play hide and seek and tag.
What activities do you like to do with your big family?
Toboggan and ski...



A MILLION UNHEARD SOUNDS
BY UMA FOURMAN, GRADE 8 (THE CALGARY JEWISH ACADEMY)
When I had just begun second grade, I migrated from the balmy land of Israel to the cold city of Winnipeg. I did not know how to speak a word of English. Maybe just an 'I don't understand', 'water', and 'bathroom' (The words my parents taught me days before).

I instantly made friends with the Russian and Hebrew speaking students in my class as I only understood them. My first interaction with an actual English student was a girl in my class. She had a minimized hearing ability or in other word deafness. The first day that I arrived in my small classroom filled with bright colors and signs that had bubbly writing about them, I couldn't help but notice the social worker standing beside our teacher as she welcomed everybody. I was confused at first. I have never encountered someone gesture sign language before. As I stared at the lady quickly moving her hands and fingers and mouth out the words so that the student would understand I noticed her looking at a girl who had a black earpiece connected to her ear. I was a 6-year-old immigrant in a Canadian public school who did not even know how to ask a question. Only once the day ended did I finally understand who she was.

People said that she 'suffered' from a reduced hearing ability. In my opinion, she wasn't suffering but was blessed. Every single day an average person hears numerous different sounds. The squeaky wheels of a bus stopping at its destination, a meaningless conversation your neighbors or strangers are laughing about, maybe even the whooshing sound of a pen scribbling across the empty paper or the clicks a computer is producing. This unimportant noises are something that echoes inside our brain and matches the surroundings of our site.

People who are deaf also encounter these moments regularly. They either think in sign language or picture the vibration. Although sound can reduce some ability, I believe that people that suffer from it should not be degraded or less respected. In a recent research that I had done, I found out about a case in the US that did not allow Shakirra Thomas (a deaf person) to get a job due to the interpreter that she would have to hire. In 2014 a percentage of deaf people unemployed resulted in a 24% gap. Although many do get hired they feel isolated from the rest of co-workers as the coworkers doubted their knowledge.

The disgusting hatred disabled people have to face today is terrible. 'A Million Unheard Sounds' was a Russian movie filmed about adults who have the same disability as a student in my class. They, however, thought that being unable to hear was something that they were lucky to have as they said that they would 'go crazy' if they heard each sound produced...

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Simchas and Celebrations Feature

Celebrate Purim on March 10 at the Fantasyland Hotel

Last year’s Chabad Purim Party at Fantasyland Hotel was out of this world and this year’s party on March 10 is going to be bigger and better than ever. Don't miss out on the Purim Party of the Year! The theme is Purim in the Jungle and it is going to be barrels of fun. The Megilla Reading starts at 5 pm and dinner gets underway at 6 pm.

Feel the energy and unify as one creating music, each person with their own boomwhacker or bongo at the Drum Circle! And it is all happening at the Fantasyland Hotel.

Come dressed up in the Purim spirit and enter into the Purim Masquerade Grand Raffle! Adults First Prize is an African Theme Room in the Fantasyland Hotel.

Kids First Prize is 4 Tickets to Galaxyland at West Edmonton Mall.

Advanced seating is available! Register online and choose your own table!

Discounted Tickets (register by March 5). Children under 4 years old are free. Children from 4 -12 years are: \$18. Youth aged 12-17: \$25. Adult: \$30.

(If you buy your ticket at the door add \$5 per person). Register now at ChabadEdmonton.org because space is limited.

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(JTA) — The Genesis Prize is taking a page from the Oscars

The movie star husband and wife duo of Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones will co-host the 2020 Genesis Prize ceremony, which will give the award nicknamed the “Jewish Nobel” to Natan Sharansky, in Jerusalem in June.

Douglas and Zeta-Jones and their children were last in Israel when Douglas received the prize in 2015. He directed his \$1 million award, and an additional \$ 1 million donated by philanthropist Roman Abramovich, to projects aimed at fostering a culture of acceptance for intermarried families. (Douglas is Jewish, while Zeta-Jones is not.)

During the couple’s visit, they will participate in a special event held by the Genesis Prize Foundation to honor the legacy of Kirk Douglas — Michael’s father, who died earlier this month at the age of 103 — and his connection to Jerusalem.

“We are particularly honored to have the opportunity to host the ceremony honoring a true Jewish hero, Natan Sharansky,” Douglas said in a statement. “Coming to Jerusalem this year is also important for our family as a way to honor the memory of my father Kirk Douglas. He adored Israel, and had a special connection with Jerusalem ever since he visited to make the film

‘Cast a Giant Shadow’ in 1965. His re-discovery of his Jewish faith, his passion for his heritage has been a guiding light for me, passed down to my children.”

The Genesis Prize was started in 2013 and is financed through a permanent \$100 million endowment. The annual award honors “extraordinary individuals for their outstanding professional achievement, contribution to humanity and commitment to Jewish values.” Sharansky was announced as the seventh Genesis Prize laureate in December.

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Simchas and Celebrations Feature

A match made in heaven

by David Silver

“Rabbi and Community: A Match made in heaven” was a message circulating the Carriage House Inn on February 9 as House of Jacob Mikveh Israel celebrated the inauguration of Rabbi Binyomin and Malka Halpern as its spiritual leaders.

In the midst of a jovial audience of synagogue members and friends, HOJMI began a new chapter in its 110 year history of serving Calgary’s Jewish community. Rabbi Halpern embraced the opportunity ahead of him to build HOJMI as a destination for Jewish living.

“We will meet Jews at their level of connection to Judaism,” said Rabbi Halpern. “HOJMI is a place where all Jews must be made to feel welcome”.

Building on the theme of unity was guest speaker Rabbi Aryeh Rockove. Visiting from Queens NY to make his address, Rabbi Rockove encouraged HOJMI to include every one of its members in the task of making a great synagogue.

“You are fortunate to have a community whose members come with them a diversity of talent,” said Rabbi Rockove. “It is your duty to ensure that every individual is reminded of their importance and given an opportunity to serve.”

Rabbi Rockove went on to advise HOJMI to think outside the box, accept that failure does happen, and pray for divine assistance. Lessons spoken from experience as someone who has served his own congregation as rabbi for the past 35 years.

A further highlight of the evening was a tribute to

community members who committed themselves to making after life gifts via the Life and Legacy program. 28 donors were given drawings prepared by children of HOJMI. These framed works illustrated scenes of nature whose beauty was fitting for the day they were given...Tu B'Shevat.

“Considering the evening was also Tu B'Shevat, a time for growth and renewal, the analogy used of husband and wife relationship to describe the partnership between Rabbi and Synagogue was appropriate,” expressed a guest. “The time is now to begin nurturing this relationship and to ensure both grow strong.”

The evening was not all business. The crowd of approximately 120 people were entertained by MC Gary Silberg whose jokes had them laughing in between the courses of tomato soup and chocolate cake. A video tribute to the HOJMI community showed many members smiling and dancing to many events which took place during the year.



Mrs. Rebecca Berlin receives a token of appreciation for her commitment to the HOJMI Life and Legacy Program at the HOJMI Gala Dinner. Photo credit: Mike Berlin

Guests walked away from the gala dinner with a sense of optimism and hope. Looking inwards, a sense of patience was discovered to learn about the other, respect differences, and offer forgiveness when mistakes are made.

Community members are invited to visit HOJMI and take part in the journey of growth. Its location, adjacent to the JCC, makes HOJMI a can't miss destination for everyone. May HOJMI go from success to success.



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Simchas and Celebrations Feature

Celebrating culture through needlework

Rimon Calgary is a Judaic needlework group that was founded in 2007 to pursue needle arts and explore hand crafts. A group of about 20-25 members have met over the past years to share knowledge and techniques to create handcrafted items intended for family, ornamental or ritual use at home, for the community and synagogue settings. Various themes and interests arise as a focus from the seasons of the Hebrew calendar, holidays, the use of traditional artifacts or symbols and simply ‘what’s new’ in the area of crafts and fibre arts. The techniques used range from beading, cross stitch, embroidery, knitting, needlepoint and quilting. The group atmosphere is one of camaraderie. Novices along with practiced artisans are welcome.

Rimon is the Hebrew word for pomegranate. The biblical or Torah reference is from Exodus Chapter 39, verses 24-25 which describe the garments of Aaron, the High priest; “And they made upon the hem of the robe pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet and twined linen.” The pomegranate was chosen as a link to our heritage.

Rimon Calgary displays creative talent both collectively and individually in varied ways.

Several group projects have been designed including the ‘Tree of Life Chuppah,’ wedding canopy. It was recently completed and made available for rental. ‘Shades of Blue’ a group quilt project, displaying Judaic symbols, hangs in the lobby of the Calgary Chevra Kaddish, the Jewish Burial Society. Hand work items were made by members to enhance the exhibit at the Little Synagogue building at Heritage Park Historical Village. Rimon has proudly had a display and sale table at the annual Beth Tzedec Synagogue Film Festival.

Individual members are artists in their own right; with one or two having completed individual commissions. Several display their quilts at the Heritage Park annual Festival of Quilts. One fibre artist designs collaged art quilts. Another a published author, has used unique quilt designs to illustrate a children’s story book. One member has designed unique dolls for many years donating them to a charity fundraising to ease the pain of HIV and AIDS by supporting grassroots projects in Africa. Funds by both Rimon Calgary and individual members have been donated to Jewish Family Service Calgary through the sale of artifacts.



Marilyn Samuels models a handmade shirt.

Ethos Bridal celebrates 50 years

Fashion trends have come and gone, but the classic elegance of Ethos Bridal Boutique has withstood the test of time and flourished. They are proudly celebrating their fiftieth anniversary of dressing Alberta’s brides and bridal parties.

Every special occasion begins with the dress and that is the specialty of Ethos Bridal Boutique. From flower girl to prom, bridesmaid to bride, evening gown to mother-of-the-bride, it’s no wonder that visiting Ethos has become such a sentimental family tradition.

Stan and Haya Stein, along with Haya’s brothers, Sam and Hayim Hamborger, founded Ethos in 1970 in Alberta and they have worked together for 50 years to bring the finest quality gowns to Canadian brides and their wedding parties.

Hayim manages the day to day operations with precision and dedication to the bridal fashion industry. Ethos matriarch, Haya Stein has a passion for all things bridal and a natural talent for designing extraordinary wedding gowns and evening wear. You will find her designs at Ethos under the Anna Rose Label, lovingly named after her mother.

“Making your wedding day a wonderful experience is our main objective,” said Haya.

“In our bridal salon you will find a wide range of dresses including exquisite couture designer wedding gowns, bridesmaid dresses, mother of the bride dresses, mother of

the groom dresses, flower girl dresses and a large selection of elegant evening gowns, special occasion dresses, graduation/prom dresses and unique bridal accessories.”

With 50 years’ experience in the wedding industry, Haya has cultivated close relationships with the world’s most celebrated fashion houses and fills her store with their finest collections. She inspires her professional bridal consultants to graciously serve every bride and help her find the perfect dress... at the very best price!

“We have an assortment of dresses that flatter every figure and offer styles for any taste or special occasion,” remarked Haya.

Bridal collections include Haute Couture Naama & Anat, Mon Cheri, Paloma Blanca, Madeline Gardner Prom, Sophia Tolli, Julietta, Atelier Pronovias Barcelona, Calla Blanche, SKY Collection, ellie wilde mon cheri, Mikaella by Paloma Blanca, Angela & Alison and Ethos Couture.

Originally based out of both Edmonton and Calgary, the Edmonton store, located in West Edmonton Mall was a favorite destination shopping experience for brides for many many years. Now Edmonton shoppers make the special trip to Calgary to sample the unique Ethos bridal selection.

“Our beautiful dresses bring the customers into the shop,” noted Haya, “but it is our amazing customer service that brings customers back year after year and across



From the Anna Rose collection, Ethos Couture

generations of friends and family members.”
Visit Calgary’s historic Devenish Building on 17 Avenue you will find the latest bridal, bridesmaid, mother-of-the-bride, flower girl, prom and evening wear collections. Book an appointment online at ethosbridal.com or call 403-245-4188.

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from the

Sources

by Eliezer Segal

Purim: Sequel to Sinai

In one of the Talmud’s more theologically troubling passages, an obscure sage named Rav Avdimi bar Hama expounded that when the Israelites stood “beneath the mountain” to receive the Torah, the Almighty was actually suspending Mount Sinai over their heads and making them an offer that they could not refuse: if you accept the Torah, fine; but if not, you will be buried on the spot!

Rabbi Aha bar Jacob objected that this scenario completely undermines the validity of Israel’s commitment to upholding the divine commandments, in that it amounts to a declaration that they only consented to it under coercion, rendering it legally null and void. To this Rava responded: nevertheless, they accepted the Torah again willingly in the days of Ahasuerus, as recorded in the book of Esther: “The Jews ordained, and took upon themselves.” Ostensibly this verbiage is redundant—why must it state both “ordained” and “took upon themselves”? Rava resolved this textual difficulty by reading the second verb as a pluperfect: in the days of Ahasuerus they ordained voluntarily that which they had previously taken upon themselves under duress at Sinai.

The implication is that until close to the end of the biblical era the Israelites were not bound by the commitment undertaken at Mount Sinai to observe G-d’s commandments, and that the real obligation did not take effect until the generation of Esther and Mordecai.

This explanation has the benefit of letting our biblical ancestors off the hook for their frequent violations of Torah laws, including their worship of the golden calf and other instances of idolatry. It does however create severe exegetical difficulties when we examine it in the broader context of the scriptural texts.

For example, even if we disregard the sources that emphasize the Israelites’ enthusiastic willingness to accept the Torah on trust, as implied in their words “we will do and [afterwards] we will hear,” the Bible records several other occasions when the people confirmed their allegiance to the Sinai covenant, such as upon their entry to the promised land under Joshua and on their return to Zion with Ezra.

Furthermore, the book of Esther seems quite explicit about what was being accepted then. The full verse reads “The Jews ordained, and took upon them... that they would keep these two days.” The passage is speaking very specifically about the adoption of the newly introduced festival of Purim, not about a general commitment to the Torah’s precepts.

In the face of all these difficulties, what did the talmudic rabbis have in mind when they placed the acceptance of Purim on the same level as the unique revelation at Sinai? For several Jewish religious thinkers this question inspired fundamental reflections about the nature of Torah and the roles of compulsion and free choice in the constitution of the Sinai covenant.

Rabbi Loew of Prague (the Maharal) linked these texts to a midrashic exposition of Ezekiel according to which a delegation approached the prophet announcing their wish to release themselves from the Sinai covenant and all its cumbersome restrictions. It was in reaction to that proposal that Ezekiel conveyed the Lord’s angry retort: “That which cometh into your mind shall not be at all, that ye say: We will be as the heathen... to serve wood and stone.”

The talmudic rabbis were making it clear that the acceptance of the Torah was never a matter of mere choice for the people of Israel, nor can it ever be. The Maharal’s interpretation is rooted in a fundamental theological premise that the Torah is not just a collection of laws and narratives—but is the metaphysical blueprint of the creation. Therefore, if the Torah were to become flawed or incomplete in any way, the universe could not continue to exist! The Torah predated the universe’s creation; therefore the divine reason for creating it would have been undermined if human beings, represented by the people of Israel, did not follow its laws and teachings. Viewed in this way, there was never any possibility of a world without Torah.

It was for this reason, says the Maharal, that G-d had to suspend the mountain over the Israelites’ heads and coerce them into accepting the Torah. Every component of creation makes its distinctive and irreplaceable

contribution to the totality. Homo sapiens must do so by means of its unique gift of intelligence, and that in turn must be assisted by the divine guidance of the Torah. This task is too serious to entrust to human caprice.

And yet, as understood by Rabbi Loew, another essential part of the divine scheme is that humans should follow the law by their own free will. Our species is the transitional bridge between the upper realm of inexorable necessity and absolute truth, and the lower realm that is subject to diverse possibilities. This is what the Torah meant when it described humans as physical beings who - unique in the created realm - are imbued with a divine image which is actualized through our commitment to a divine law that sometimes transcends rational explanation.

This, wrote the Maharal, is precisely what happened with the institution of the first Purim. It was the only occasion in the Bible when the Jews accepted upon themselves of their own volition, without coercion or threat, the obligation to observe a commandment. As another talmudic statement expounded the verse: they “ordained” above what they “took upon them” below.

The talmudic sages had taught that the reading of the Megillah was hinted at in the Torah’s directive to remember the crime of the Amalekites, Haman’s ancestors. Therefore, the people’s readiness in the days of Esther and Mordecai to accept a precept that was suggested only indirectly can be regarded as a retroactive demonstration that they would have willingly accepted the commandments that were spoken explicitly at Sinai.

Indeed, the Torah does command us to “rejoice in your festival.” Purim seems like a fine time to start obeying that commandment.

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Simchas and Celebrations Feature

Calgary's Halpern Akiva Academy celebrates Grandparents' and Friends' Day



Calgary's Halpern Akiva Academy extend a heartfelt thank you to the Sponsors, Volunteers, Teachers, Grandparents and Friends who made their Grandparents' and Friends' Day a resounding success! "Our special visitors began the morning with a tour of our new Faigel and Len Shapiro STEAM Lab. They watched our 3D printer in action, printing a 3D Mezuzah case. We started with anthems in the gym and instructions for the stations. Our students enjoyed cracking the code (Rabbi Goldenberg), Origami (Mr. Habot.), writing their name the way it is written in the Torah (Rabbi Halpern), making a picture frame (Ms. Waseem and Ms. Delaney), and listening to grandparents and friends read the Giving Tree in both Hebrew and English (Ms. Filewich and Mrs. Kaufman) together with their grandparents and friends. Pre-School enjoyed Shabbat Party, Picture Frame crafts and circle time with Morah Corinne, Morah Emily, Mrs. V, Morah Mickaela and Ms. Josie. Special thank you to Mrs. Kostousov, Mr. Berlin, and Mrs. Jacobs and all the volunteers who helped organize the brunch and stations." PJ Library and Halpern Akiva Academy are holding a PJ Purim Carnival at Akiva Academy on March 8 from 1 - 2:30 pm. Everyone is welcome; be sure to wear a costume and win a prize. There is no charge.

Calgary Cabaret cont. from page 8

"It's about facades and about people pretending to be what they're not," Astop said. "Ernst, for example, is likeable until you find out his [Nazi] politics." And, she points out, everyone is dismissive of him at first.

The wonderful music and memorable dance numbers of Cabaret convey the naughtiness and decadence of 1930s Berlin and show glimmers of the darkness that the audience, with the benefit of hindsight, knows is about to descend.

The character of the Emcee, who is the audience's guide into the crazy world of the Kit Kat Klub, is "kind of a tragic representative of what happened to a lot of people – to Jews, queers, everyone who had to suffer under Hitler," Astop explained. "This is an authentic story of what was going on at the time, of how things started to change, how Hitler played on fear and blamed the Jews."

A heart-breaking side-story is the lovely relationship between the rooming house proprietor, Fräulein Schneider, and mild-mannered fruit seller Herr Schultz, the latter played by Gary Silberg. Schultz is the only overtly Jewish character in the play, and he and Schneider plan to marry. As the Nazis begin to gain power, they are forced to put their romance on hold.

Silberg is a prime example of the actors and crew of

Front Row Centre Players. A computer consultant by day, he is one of the 15 actors in Cabaret, all of whom are volunteers. He says that acting has been his hobby his whole life, ever since his first appearance in a B'nai Brith show at age eight.

It takes a great deal of commitment to take part in these shows – rehearsals are often three times a week for three months. But for everyone in Front Row Centre Players, it's a labour of love.

The community theatre company, which began in 1987, is a volunteer-driven organization that provides a supportive environment for anyone to participate in and learn all aspects of musical theatre.

"It's an opportunity for people who love theatre to grow and perform, even if they don't make it their business," explained Astop, who works for Theatre Calgary as the Database and Systems Manager. She started out in props and design, and this is the second show she is directing for Front Row Centre Players.

Silberg said that much of musical theatre is not

terribly serious, but that is not the case for Cabaret.

"There is a lot more to understand and explore than in a lot of musicals. It requires more talk about the backstory for the characterization to be authentic," Silberg explained.

"Some directors like to delve deeply into the characters and Kristine is one of those."

Cabaret has a strong message – and although it is set in the 1930s, and was first staged in 1966, the story still resonates with audiences today. Check out Front Row Centre's production from March 20 to April 4. Tickets are available at www.frontrowcentre.ca. Cabaret is recommended as adult viewing.



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A snapshot of activities at Calgary Jewish Academy



Students at the CJA celebrated the 100th day of school by showing how much older they got. In teaching students the value of community, building their identity, and ensuring academic excellence through innovation, the CJA prepares students for their future as citizens in a local, national and global context.

Edmonton Chevra Kadisha is expanding

What do you do when a loved member of the Jewish Community passes away in Edmonton or Northern Alberta? One of the first things to do is immediately notify the Edmonton Chevra Kadisha at 780-482-3065 (24 hours). You should also contact your rabbi if you are affiliated with a synagogue.

Edmonton Chevra Kadisha has been providing burial services to the Jewish Community of Edmonton and Northern Alberta since 1907. They will immediately arrange to coordinate the transfer of the deceased, to organize a shomer (guard) and to prepare the gravesite.

The Edmonton Chevra Kadisha will meet with the family at the Chesed Shel Emes prior to the funeral. At this meeting they will assist with completing government documents and finalize arrangements concerning the plot, location of the service, transportation,

community notification and fee arrangements.

Edmonton Chevra Kadisha helps ensure that all burials conform to Jewish ritual and law and are held as soon as possible after death. Its members prepare the body in accordance with ritual dictated by Jewish law. They use a simple kosher cloth-covered wood casket which is always kept closed at all times. At the funeral service, which is carried out at the chapel and/or graveside, prayers are chanted, and a eulogy is delivered by clergy and family / friends if they are able.

It is customary for the unveiling of the monument to be held on or before eleven months of the funeral date. Chevra Kadisha helps with the arrangement of the unveiling.

The Edmonton Chevra Kadisha (Holy Society) is a wholly volunteer association, comprised of men and

women who give their time and energy to organize and perform all the religiously required tasks of burying Jewish deceased. The Chevra Kadisha owns and operates the Edmonton Jewish Cemetery as a service to the community.

In 1935, a permanent chapel was built at the cemetery. This chapel was renovated in the mid-1990s and is often used for services.

Although funeral and burial services are not eligible for tax-deductible receipts, the Chevra Kadisha welcomes all additional financial contributions and is able to provide a tax-deductible receipt to all donors. A second cemetery is currently in the planning stages and the Chevra Kadisha is seeking support of this project. These donations are tax deductible.

For more information contact Chevra Kadisha at 780-482-3065 or visit edmontonjewishcemetery.ca.

Russ Joseph, z'l Memorial Fund established



Russ Joseph

Thanks to a generous donation, a fund has been established at the Edmonton Community Foundation in memory of former Federation CEO and community member, Russ Joseph, z'l.

The fund was established thanks to the Dianne & Irving Kipnes Foundation, and the monies will go towards the Holocaust

Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton. Primarily, the money will be used for scholarships for participants on the March of the Living annual trip to Poland and Israel. Ultimately, it will benefit holocaust education in general.

Russ was a prominent member of the Edmonton Jewish Community for many years. He served as President of Beth Shalom Synagogue and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton. Originally from Toronto, he ran Red Deer Toyota for many years. When he and his wife, Jan, left Edmonton six years ago, he became Executive Director of Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto, a position he held until he passed away last year. Holocaust Education was an important subject for him both in his personal and professional capacities.

Holocaust Education has been a priority of Dianne and Irv Kipnes for many years. They already fund the Dianne & Irving Kipnes Holocaust Education Symposium, which takes place in March every year here in the City, and educates High School students about the Holocaust through a specialized program, held each year for students from across Edmonton. This program has taken place for the past 20 years in an attempt to supplement the Alberta

Education Curriculum for Grade 12 Students, which does not formally include the Holocaust.

The March of the Living program has also been run by the Federation for over 20 years, in conjunction with March of the Living International. It takes a group of Jewish Grade 11 & 12 Students to Poland and Israel every other year to show them first hand the horrors of the Holocaust through visits to the camps, and a walk of solidarity between Auschwitz and Birkenau on Yom Hashoah. After the Poland portion of the trip, the students fly to Israel, where they celebrate the uplifting holiday of Yom Ha'atzmaut or Israel Independence Day. It is accompanied by a preparatory education course conducted by the chaperones.

We thank the Dianne and Irving Kipnes Foundation for their generosity, which will enable students to go on this program, through bursary application, for many years to come. Additional contributions to this fund may be made by individuals through the Edmonton Community Foundation.

COBS

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Thursday, Friday,

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Visit your local baker at

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PURIM PARTY

at Beth Shalom

Monday, March 9th

5:15PM - Pasta Dinner

Cost before March 7th:

Child (0-2) Free; Child (3-12) \$5; Adult \$10.00; Family (2 adults & 2 kids) \$20 (\$5 for each additional child)

Cost on March 9th:

Child (0-2) Free; Child (3-12) \$5; Adult \$15; Family (2 adults & 2 kids) \$35 (\$5 for each additional child)

6:15PM - Purim Schpiel

7:00PM - Dessert; Costume Parade; Prizes, & 50/50 Draw*

*Tickets can be purchased at the door or pre purchased by calling Beth Shalom's office.

Price of the tickets are: 1 ticket \$2; 3 tickets \$5; 10 tickets \$10;

You can pre purchase 25 tickets for \$20 by calling the Shul's office (this rate will not be available at the Purim Shbang)

7:30PM - Megillah Reading

This month's update from Edmonton Talmud Torah School



It's been a busy month at Talmud Torah. Pictured above, the Talmud Torah Society's Out of School program students enjoyed a talent show during a Pd day. The kids served muffins to the attendees and everyone had a great time.

To learn more about the Edmonton Talmud Torah School or to book a tour of the school, contact Gerald Sorokin at 780-481-3377 or email geraldsorokin@talmudtorahsociety.com



**WITTEN
LLP**

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E-mail: lawyers@wittenlaw.com
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HOTEL
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Fantasyland Hotel hosts 25,000 sq. ft. of conference space to accommodate events or celebrations of any size. In addition to our array of event space, clients can work with our world-renowned chefs to customize a gourmet Kosher menu for up to 500 people under the Kashrut Supervision of Chabad Lubavitch of Edmonton.

flh.ca | 780-444-5500 | groups@flh.ca



Quality Education is Priceless

Edmonton Talmud Torah's Early Learning Centre and K-6 school offers an excellent academic experience and a rich grounding in Jewish heritage and Hebrew language.

Discover Edmonton Talmud Torah

- Cutting edge teaching practices & technology
- Warm school community
- Dedicated teachers

**Now accepting registrations for academic year
2020 - 2021**

Call 780 481-3377 or
email geraldsorokin@talmudtorahsociety.com
for a school tour or registration package.



Tuition grants made possible in part through the Talmud Torah Society and the UJA of Edmonton.



Please Recycle This Newspaper

SPRING HAS SPRUNG AT



JFS
EDMONTON

Please join us on Thursday, March 26th for our AGM at 6pm sharp.

In the meantime, check out our Facebook for your daily dose of wellness with a distinctly Jewish twist!



The Torah was the first book to introduce laws, ethics and morals during a time of human sacrifice and severe immorality over 3,000 years ago.
delilah.net.com
#JFSedmonton

HOW TO SUPPORT SOMEONE THROUGH A PANIC ATTACK



- Stay with the person and keep calm
- Don't make assumptions about what the person needs. Ask
- Speak to the person in short, simple sentences
- Be predictable
- Avoid surprises
- Help slow the person's breathing by breathing with them

JFS

HAVE YOU HEARD OF BENEFITS FINDER?



JFS

 @JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES - EDMONTON



Purchase Greetings for Passover

Our March 2020 edition will continue the tradition of featuring Passover greeting pages from individual community members wishing their family and friends a chag sameach.

Greetings are just **\$36** plus gst and a portion of the proceeds will go to covering subscription costs to Alberta Jewish News

To purchase your greeting visit:
 / Alberta Jewish News,
albertajewishnews.com or email albertajewishnews@gmail.com



HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS



CHW
Children
Healthcare
Women

Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW)
2020 Annual Campaign

Help Us Reach Our Fundraising Goal of \$1.5M

Change Lives Provide Hope Build Futures

info@calgary.chw.ca 403-253-4612

 chw.ca/calgary

CHW passionately supports programs and services for **Children, Healthcare, and Women** in Israel and Canada.

B"H

Chabad of Edmonton invites you to

PURIM in the **JUNGLE**

PARTY OF THE YEAR!

TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 10TH

5:00PM MEGILLA - 6:00PM DINNER

AT FANTASYLAND HOTEL





African Drum Circle!

Jungle animal presentation!

Delicious 3 course dinner!

Jungle Jumpy Castle!

Family Masquerade!

REGISTER NOW!
SPACE IS LIMITED!
www.ChabadEdmonton.org

Feel the energy and unify as one creating music, each person with their own boomwhacker or bongo at the Drum Circle!

Come dressed up in the Purim spirit and enter into our Masquerade Grand Raffle!
Adults First Prize: African Theme Room in the Fantasyland Hotel
Kids First Prize: 4 Tickets to Galaxyland

Advanced seating! Register online and choose your table!
Discounted Tickets (register by March 5)

Under 4: FREE • Children 4-12: \$18 • Youth: 12-17: \$25 • Adult: \$30
(At the door add \$5 per person)



KAYLA ASBELL



WILLIAM MARANTZ



REED MCCOLL



AVERY SPREEW



SEAN SONEGO

FROM THE AUTHOR OF TRUMAN'S JEW

The Girl - from - Treblinka

BY LEONARD DAVID STONE
WITH CREATIVE SUPPORT FROM BETTY SCHAFFEL

Frida Blume, a German Jew slaughtered at the Treblinka concentration camp, and Karl Blix, a Nazi soldier harbouring an unthinkable secret and responsible for the termination of hundreds of Jews, find themselves forced to share the same space after their deaths, where transformation from life to spirit occurs...

WORLD PREMIERE
APRIL 26, 2020 at 7:15 P.M.

DOORS OPEN at 6:30 P.M.
DESSERT RECEPTION at 9:00 P.M.

TICKETS \$75
BETH ISRAEL OFFICE (780) 488-2840

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE
131 WOLF WILLOW ROAD
EDMONTON, AB

FAMILYSHUL.ORG/TREBLINKA

IN SUPPORT OF BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE AND HOLOCAUST EDUCATION



BETH ISRAEL
EDMONTON'S FAMILY SHUL



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